

New Jersey Department of Agriculture

Memo

To: Distribution List Below

From: Monique Purcell

C: Secretary Charles M. Kuperus, Jim Sadley

Date: September 16, 2004

**Re: Draft Rules on Animal Waste Management
Interested Party Review (IPR)**

The New Jersey Aquaculture Development Act authorized the New Jersey Department of Agriculture (NJDA) to develop and adopt a comprehensive animal waste management program that provides for the proper disposal of animal waste, which includes the criteria and standards for the composting, handling, storage, processing and utilization of animal waste. Authority was also given to develop compliance provisions with penalties and the assessment of fees to cover administrative costs.

A Memorandum of Agreement between the NJDA and the Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) identifies the NJDA as the lead agency in implementing manure management measures for animal feeding operations (AFOs) and the NJDEP as the lead agency for implementing manure management measures for concentrated animal feeding operations (CAFOs). The NJDEP's CAFO permitting program went into effect in March of 2003.

The NJDA, with the assistance of an advisory committee, has developed the enclosed draft rules to implement an animal waste management program for AFOs. The advisory committee was made up of representatives from the NJDA, Rutgers University, Rutgers Cooperative Extension, NRCS and the Farm Bureau.

Before we move ahead with a formal rule proposal, we are distributing these draft rules to you as part of an interested party review to solicit feedback.

Please send your comments to my attention, as listed on the first page of the draft rules, by **November 30, 2004**.

Please feel free to distribute the draft to any other interested parties or constituency groups.

To access the draft rules, please use this link:
www.state.nj.us/agriculture/animalwasterules.pdf

We look forward to hearing from you and working together to implement a reasonable and effective animal waste management strategy for the protection of water quality.

Thank you for your assistance.